

Facts About Wiring

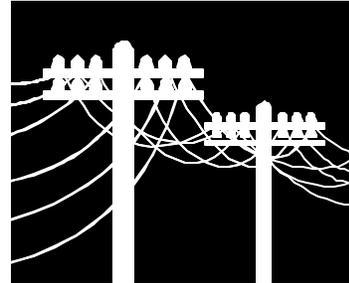


F500-011-000 [11/99]

Who can do electrical work?

Washington state regulations allow property owners to perform their own electrical work in most cases. However, the property owner is not allowed to make the installation on rental, sale or leased property unless the owner is going to live at the property for two years.

Licensed electrical contractors are authorized to do all electrical work that is within the scope of their license classification. Work by non-licensed electrical people may affect insurance coverage and personal liability. Washington state requires that contractors be bonded, giving customers some financial protection against substandard or incomplete work. You can verify that an electrical contractor is licensed by calling your local L&I service location or online at www.lni.wa.gov/scs/contractors



Purchasing and filling out a permit:

All electrical installations, new or remodel, require an electrical permit, which must be obtained prior to starting the job. The permit must be purchased and filled out by the party doing the electrical work. For example, if the owner is doing the electrical work, the owner must purchase the permit. If an electrical contractor is doing the work, then the electrical contractor must buy the permit.

When you buy a permit:

- Fill it out completely and legibly
- Make sure your phone number and/or contact person phone number is on permit.
- Provide an accurate and legible map or written directions leading to the job site.
- Your permit will remain on file until a request for inspection is made.
- Electrical permits expire one year after the purchase date.

Before you call for inspection:

- Do not cover or insulate.
 - Post the address so it can be seen from the road.
 - Post the permit on the job site.
 - Mobile homes also require a building permit be posted on the job site.
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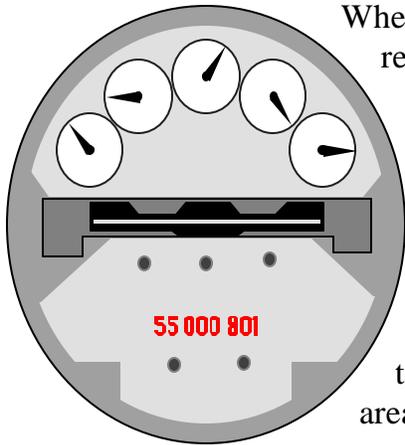
Ready for inspection? Call the request line!

The request line is a recording for requesting electrical inspections. An inspector will usually arrive, unannounced, within two business days, unless other arrangements have been made.

When you call, state clearly your permit number, your name, address, phone number, and a brief description of what is to be inspected. If you need to make special arrangements, such as providing access, be very specific when leaving the request.

If the inspector orders corrections:

Electrical corrections written on the job site are to be corrected within 15 days after being written.



When all corrections are complete, call the request line to request a re-inspection. Include your address, permit number, name and phone number. Be sure to provide some means of access to the work that is to be inspected. Understanding and implementing these directions will help you avoid additional fees and costly time delays. Any questions should be referred to the office serving your location. See listings under "Washington, State of" in the government section or the white pages of the telephone book for the Labor and Industries office in your area, or visit L&I on the Internet at www.lni.wa.gov/scs/electrical

Visit the L&I web site at www.wa.gov/lni/

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